

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** February 10, 2011

**Agenda Item:** 2011 Spring Turkey Quotas/Limits

**Division:** Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Approval of Final Quotas/Limits

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 10 minutes

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### **Background**

Upland game bird season dates for 2011 were finalized in February 2010. Other season elements, including bag and possession limits, may be changed annually. Reflecting the typically static nature of upland bird bag and possession limits, as supported by biology and management history, there are no proposed changes from Spring 2010 for Spring 2011 Spring Turkey quotas and limits.

### **Public Involvement Process & Results**

In addition to public comment at the FWP Commission meeting in December, public comment ran from Dec. 10 thru Jan. 14, 2011. Thirty comments were received. All comments will be forwarded to the commission. This input was diverse with comments ranging from support for expanded opportunity in some turkey populations in western Montana as well as concern for reduced turkey populations in eastern Montana's Region 7. Some comments spoke to structural changes outside the scope of this annual quota setting process.

### **Alternatives and Analysis**

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions or no change from 2010 (status quo) as per staff justifications, public comment and FWP Commission discussion.

### **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

Recommend maintaining 2010 Spring turkey bag and possession limits and permit quotas for Spring 2011. This is consistent with known biology, management history and survey efforts to date.

### **Proposed Motion**

I move to adopt the final Spring 2011 Turkey quotas and limits as presented by FWP.